

(d) and (e). As per available information, a meeting was held on 31st May, 1996 under the Chairmanship of Inspector General of Forests to discuss trans-border issues affecting India and Nepal.

(f) A series of measures have been taken to check the illegal activities on borders. These include :

(I) Strengthening of the Border Security Force:

- (i) raising of additional battalions under the expansion plan of the Border Security Force;
- (ii) reducing gaps between the Border outposts;
- (iii) increase in the number of outpost towers;
- (iv) provision of surveillance equipments and night vision devices; and
- (v) raising of riverine water wing of the Border Security Force.

(II) Fencing, Flood Lighting and Patrolling :

- (i) construction of border roads and fence on the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders;
- (ii) flood lighting in the sensitive stretches on the Indo-Pak border; and

- (iii) intensification of patrolling along the border.

(III) Surveillance on the Coastal Area :

- (i) intensive surveillance by Naval vessels on the high seas;
- (ii) joint Coast Guard and Navy surveillance in the territorial waters; and
- (iii) patrolling by joint detachments of Navy (Coast Guard), Customs and State Police through trawlers in the shallow waters along the shore.

(IV) Intelligence Gathering sharing and Coordination:

Intelligence gathering is being constantly monitored to ensure that more and more pin pointed and actionable intelligence is available. Mechanisms have been set up to share such information, promptly with the State Governments.

Stock of Sugar

3711. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sugar mills, including Cooperative Sugar mills in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have been burdened with huge stocks of sugar while crushing for the current season has already started;

(b) if so, the total amount of sugar stocks with the mills and Government stores at the beginning of the current crushing season; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the stocks and to make the required credit to the cooperative and other mills for the clearance of the dues to cane growers and other allied purposes?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). Due to higher level of sugar production during 1994-95 and 1995-96 sugar season (October-September) the sugar stocks with the factories had been at higher level at the beginning of the current crushing season. The stocks of sugar with the factories at the beginning of current season as on 1.10.1996 in Maharashtra and U.P. were 28.02 lakh tonnes and 20.79 lakh tonnes (Provisional) respectively.

(c) In order to clear the stock and to improve the liquidity of sugar mills, the Government have taken various measures like, higher release of freesale sugar, creation of bufferstock, permission for exports and relaxation to the sugar mills to avail higher credit limits from the banks.

Encroachment of a Border Village

3712 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the village Molcham in Manipur is facing threat of being included within the border of Burma

(b) whether the Army from Burma often enters the village and harasses the villagers;

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure that the Molcham area is not encroached upon by Burma;

(d) whether Narcotics are being smuggled into India through Molcham area; and

(e) the action taken to stop the smuggling thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per available information no such threat has been reported.

(b) and (c). The Government of Manipur has informed that no such incident has been reported during last three years. One Police Station has been established by the Government of Manipur in Molcham village. A Border out post of Border Security Force is also located near this village.

(d) and (e). Since the smuggling of narcotics is a clandestine activity, there is no specific report suggesting that smuggling of narcotics from Myanmar takes place through Molcham village. The enforcement agencies have been instructed to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. High level coordination meetings are held periodically to review